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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

OFFICE OF NATIONAL ESTIMATES

23 August 1951

DRAFT

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE COMMUNIST INTENTIONS IN BREAKING OFF THE KAESONG
NEGOTIATIONS

(Alternative Paragraph 2)

2. The Communists must realize ^{renewed Communist} ~~the probability~~ that a ~~successful~~
^{offensive} ~~in Korea~~ ^{might} lead to expansion of the war by the US,
with the consequent increase of danger of general war. We believe
as we have stated in NIE-25 that the Kremlin will continue to aid
the Communists in ways which the Kremlin estimates would not involve
serious danger of a break between the USSR and the US/UN. If the
Communist forces in Korea were threatened with decisive defeat, the
Kremlin would probably intensify its aid, perhaps eventually including
the use of Soviet forces to the extent that a de facto local war between

DOCUMENT NO. 1
NO CHANGE IN CLASS. ☐
☐ DECLASSIFIED
CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S C
NEXT REVIEW DATE: 1991
AUTH: HR 10-2
DATE: 12-28-80 REVIEWER: 018557

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the US/UN and USSR would exist. At every stage, however, the Kremlin would probably endeavor to keep open the possibility of ending the Korean conflict by negotiation, if the global interests of the USSR would be served by disengagement in Korea. We therefore conclude that even though the Kaesong talks have been broken off, there is a real likelihood that the Communists will attempt to reopen the cease fire negotiations in the near future, probably on a political rather than a military level.

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